

## Economic Growth Region 9 Summary

Economic Growth Region (EGR) 9 is located in southeastern Indiana. The region is comprised of Bartholomew, Dearborn, Decatur, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland counties. The Columbus Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the lone MSA located in EGR 9. Columbus, Seymour and Madison are the three largest cities in EGR 9.

This largely rural area (91.7 persons per square mile) is home to 5% of Indiana's population, according to the 2007 population estimate of 318,502 persons. The total housing units estimate for 2007 was 136,553. Approximately 35% of the population estimate in EGR 9 was between 18 and 44 years old in 2007. About 26% of the population was between the ages of 45 and 64. According to Census 2000, approximately 14.8% of the region's 25 years and older population had attained a bachelor's degree or higher, with about 80% graduating from high school. Per capita personal income for the region was \$30,293 in 2006 versus \$32,288 for the state.

An average annual total of 7,131 firms provided an estimated 133,180 jobs in 2007. Manufacturing had the largest employment of any industry sector with an annual average of 38,065 jobs in 2007, followed by government with 19,709 jobs. These two sectors accounted for about 43% of total jobs for the region in 2007. The sector with the highest percentage growth in employment since 2003 is wholesale trade at 12%.

The all-industry average annual salary in 2007 was \$37,528, which is almost 6% below the average annual salary for Indiana and is roughly 12% higher than the 2003 average annual salary for the region (not adjusted for inflation). Management of companies & enterprises was the highest paying sector in 2007 with an average annual salary of \$72,683, followed by utilities at \$68,266.

Major employers in the region include Grand Victoria Casino & Resort, Columbus Regional Hospital, Cummins Engine and Honda Manufacturing according to InfoUSA. Top occupations by projected growth rate in the region are gaming supervisors, computer software engineers, systems software and network systems & data communications analysts.

Source of Employment and Wage Data: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

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